

## BRUTAL MURDER

Both an Axe and a Raysor Were Used to Commit It.

## BODY CAST IN WELL

The Horrible Crime is One of the Worst That Ever Happened in Columbia, and for Mystery Surrounding it Rivals the Famous Maud Allen Murder Case.

In the revolting killing in the kitchen of her home at 611 Sumter street, Columbia, Friday morning about day-break, of Mrs. Victoria Griffin, who was struck in the head with an axe, her throat cut from ear to ear and her body thrown into the well on the premises.

The Record says the Columbia police have a murder mystery on their hands, which is a match for the Maud Allen murder mystery, which has never been solved. In both the Maud Allen and Griffin murder cases the owner of the premises is a resident of Brookland. This has no bearing on the case, but is merely a curious coincidence. The following particulars of the crime we clip from the Columbia Record:

Five men have been arrested in connection with this morning's murder, three of them sons of the dead woman; the fourth a man said to have been on friendly terms with the dead woman up to five months ago, when he ceased boarding at the house, and the fifth a barber named Luke Lewis, who was a visitor to the dead woman's oldest daughter by a former husband, Eula Thompson. The three sons are Walter, Jim and Russell Griffin, all cotton mill operatives. They were all found at the house by the police, and said they all slept in their mother's room, the youngest, Russell, in the same bed. The oldest daughter occupied a room to the front. There was still another daughter in the house, about 13 years old. There are only three rooms and a kitchen in the house. The other man in arrest is S. Wash Medlin, who ceased boarding at the house recently, but who turned up there shortly after the arrival of the police at about 5:30 Friday morning.

All the arrests made were made at the house, except that of Lewis, who was placed in arrest at his barber shop in the McCreery building, opposite the union station. He said he was not at the house last night, and Eula Thompson says, though last night was his usual night to be there, he had sent word that he could not come.

All the children, except a daughter, who lives in the country, were at home, and they advanced the theory of suicide so strongly, in the face of the physical facts demonstrating murder unmistakably, that Coroner Walker became suspicious of them and made the arrests as indicated.

The woman's husband, David Wesley Griffin, was a well known resident of Richland county, and was fairly successful in business. He was murdered in a quarrel with his partner in the turpentine business, by a man named Dennis, about five years ago, in Georgia.

The oldest daughter says she discovered that her mother was missing about 5 o'clock. Being awakened at this time and not hearing her mother stirring in the kitchen, the daughter left her room to go to her mother's to arouse her. Not finding her there she made a fruitless search. The youngest son then went to the union station, a few blocks away, and notified Officer Salter, who, with another officer went to the house at once.

A horrible sight met the officers' gaze in that back kitchen in the fresh crisp dawn of the new day. A pool of blood was on the floor of the kitchen, a bloody razor, afterward claimed as his by one of the sons, was on the kitchen table, and in the corner stood a bloody axe, part of the blade being broken off and the other half very bloody, and blood on the handle. There were bloody tracks about the kitchen. There were also some tracks leading back into the room where the sons slept, but it is thought these were made by the youngest boy in going out to search for his mother. Prints of the woman's fingers on the floor as she struggled in her own blood were evident.

Finally the officers were attracted to the well by a few blood stains on the side of the well-box. The top was down, the dry bucket on the two lids. Further investigation disclosed the woman, whose body was fished up out of about fifteen feet of water, though it was not yet stiff.

The dead woman had a gash in the top of her head as it made by three licks from the blade of the axe, although the skull was not fractured. The wounds on the throat revealed repeated hackings at it with the razor, the assassin striking the cartilage of the Adam's apple and forcing his way through this with fiendish energy. A chip out of the Adam's apple was found on the kitchen floor by Dr. L. A. Griffith, who afterward conducted the post mortem.

The woman's next door neighbors

## MET TO SETTLE

RESULT IS ONE DEAD AND TWO INJURED.

Husband and Brother-in-Law Resent Imputation of Man Who Said Wife's Coffee Was Poor.

A dispatch from Birmingham, Ala., says resenting the imputation of C. H. Carper that Mrs. Kelley could not make good coffee, W. T. Kelley, and his brother-in-law, Will Sparks, Sunday morning met Carper at Boyle, a suburb of Birmingham, and proceeded to "settle" the matter.

As a result of the affair, Carper is dead, Sparks is fatally injured and Kelley is wounded in the arm and leg.

It is said that Kelley attacked Carper with a club, whereupon Carper drew a pistol, two other pistols being immediately produced by the brothers-in-law and a general fusillade of shots followed with the above results.

## FOUND IN SEWER.

The Body of a Long Missing Man Found at Last.

The dead body of E. V. Moore, who disappeared mysteriously the night of May 19, 1902, was unearthed Friday by workmen excavating for a sewer extension in Dilworth, a suburb of Charlotte, N. C. Moore quarreled with a stranger at the fair grounds the night of his disappearance and was supposed to have been murdered and the body hidden. Personal effects were found on the same spot the next day but no clue to the body nor any trace of the missing man was unearthed until Friday. The sewer extension was open at the time and the police think that he may have fallen into it while intoxicated. He left a wife and two children and the remains were turned over to the family for burial.

## RATTLES KILLED BY RODENTS.

Snake Overcome by Rats Intended For His Meal.

Two big gray rats fought a battle with a rattlesnake this week at Dalton, Ga., and the rats won. The snake was brought to the city and placed in a store window. Two rats were caught with the intention of giving them to the snake to eat. The rats were put in with the snake and they showed fight at once. While the snake was after one, the other would plunge its teeth into the snake's body. After an hour the snake died. One of the rats was nearly dead, but the other was unhurt. The rattler measured seven feet in length.

The dead woman suffered from cancer of the stomach, the children say, and they believe she took her own life on this account, because she had been saying lately that if she could find a good way to kill herself she would do it.

A theory of the police is that Medlin committed the murder in a fit of jealous rage, having caught Mrs. Griffin in company with another man. The children admit that Medlin slept in the same room with their mother when he was boarding there, but they deny there had been any quarrel between the two, so far as they are informed. Medlin has been to the house frequently up to within a week of the murder, it is said.

Mrs. Griffin's son Walter, who says he slept in the same bed with his mother, although he is fourteen years old, says his mother had a habit of going out to the back steps several times a night on hot nights and dipping snuff. She went out last night. He does not recall her returning after she had gone out the third time. She was wearing dark clothes then.

are negroes. They could tell the police nothing to throw any light on the mystery.

The coroner and police found the children all in tears and they appeared to be grief-stricken in the extreme. In the face of all these facts disclosed by the police they still affect to believe their mother committed suicide.

Neighbors say the children were very affectionate towards their mother.

In support of the suicide theory the children turned over to the coroner a two-ounce bottle of iodine, half empty, which they said their mother bought Thursday. The bottle bears the imprint of W. C. McMillan's drug store.

When fished out of the well the woman was clad in two night gowns, and the small amount of blood on them gave rise to the suspicion that the body was thus dressed after the murder.

Eula Thompson stoutly maintains to the coroner that she is a good girl. She went so far as to offer to undergo any sort of examination at the hands of a physician which would satisfy the coroner that she had always been a good woman. She says she is willing to do this or most anything else to throw any light on the mystery of her mother's murder or suicide, whichever it is.

## MANY KILLED

By Earthquake Shock in the South of France.

## MANY PERSONS HURT

The Full Extent of the Disaster Not Yet Known—Great Suffering is Reported in Remote Districts, Where Food Is Lacking—The Monetary Loss Is Very Heavy.

A dispatch from Marseilles says from 75 to 100 dead and 100 injured is the estimate of total casualties as to the result of the earthquake which devastated several towns and villages in the southernmost part of France, particularly in the departments of Haurie and Bouches-de-Rhone.

Great suffering is reported from the remoter places, owing to a lack of bread and the necessities of life before the arrival of assistance. The casualties may be greatly increased, as the ruins have not yet been entirely searched. The villages of Saint Cannat and Rognes were completely demolished by the earthquake and Lambesc, which is 12 miles from Aix, suffered heavily. According to advices received a number of the wounded are still imprisoned in the ruins, and soldiers are working desperately to rescue them.

Survivors are sleeping in tents and the streets are impassable. In many places they have been torn up and are encumbered with masses of wreckage. Houses, public buildings and churches are crumbled to pieces.

Among other villages seriously damaged are Vanvenargues, Vauvenargues, Puy-de-Reparade and Argellies.

The victims at Saint Cannat and Rognes were horribly mutilated. There were evidences that several of the victims had lived for hours imprisoned by the debris before they died. The people rushed into the streets when the first shock occurred, crying out in terror. Many of them returned to the rescue of their families.

At Rognes a family of four were buried in the ruins. Their cries could be heard throughout the night, but all were dead in the morning, when a rescuing party reached them.

At Saint Cannat an old man and his son were watching a billiard game. They were instantly killed. The players escaped with slight bruises. The chateau Val Mousse, near Saint Cannat, was badly damaged. The communal chateau at Argillies was split in two. The historic village of Vernegues was wrecked, but no one was killed.

The monetary loss in the affected district is very heavy.

## CLEMSON WANTS THE EDITORS

And They Are Likely to Gather at the College.

It is likely that the South Carolina Press Association will hold its 1910 meeting at Clemson College. The college authorities have extended the editors of the State a cordial invitation to come to the college then and spend a week, the college authorities to pay the expenses of a week's entertainment out of their own pockets.

This is done because of the recent discussion that has been going on over the State about the management of Clemson. The college authorities say they want the newspaper men to come there and personally inspect the plant and workings of the college, and write afterwards just how they feel about the matter.

This will appeal strongly to many of the newspaper men over the State, and it is thought the Press Association will accept the invitation.

## STEAMER STRUCK BY SHOT.

Badly-aimed Projectile Hits Quarter-master's Vessel.

A wild shot from one of the guns at Fort Williams, Me., struck the United States quarter-master's steamer Alfred W. Drew Sunday during sub-calibre practice at the fort and, smashing through the wooden sides and bulkheads of the steamer, penetrated one of the boiler plates. Aboard at the time were artillerymen and observers from the fort watching the results of the practice.

## Whitewash Receipt.

The "whitewash season" is at hand and a receipt to make whitewash that will not crumble off may be of use to someone who reads this. Here's the formula used by Uncle Sam at the various government works: "Ten parts fresh slacked lime and one part hydraulic cement. Mix well with salt water and apply thin." Give this formula a trial the next time you whitewash.

## Must Pay Church Debt.

That a subscription promise to pay is a binding contract was the decision of Circuit Judge C. L. Collins, this week, in the case against Frank P. Chesbrough, of Hastings, Mich.

## FATAL PISTOL FIGHT

CORPORAL SHOTS CAPTAIN, 2 OTHERS AND SELF.

Soldier Became Enraged After Being Reprimanded for Staying Over Leave.

A dispatch from Des Moines, Iowa, says Corporal Lisle Crabtree Sunday probably fatally shot Capt. John C. Raymond, commanding officer of Troop B, second U. S. Cavalry, at Fort Des Moines; shot and seriously injured First Sergeant James H. Washburn and Corporal Elijah Such, who attempted to disarm him, and then shot himself, the bullet striking a rib above the heart and crushing the bone. He may recover.

Crabtree had been reprimanded by Capt. Raymond because of failure to report when a leave of absence had expired. He had spent the night in Des Moines and was to have returned to his barracks at 7 a. m. The corporal insisted he had leave of absence until 7 o'clock Sunday. Captain Raymond accepted this explanation, but later Crabtree demanded that he be transferred to another department of the army. This Capt. Raymond refused to consider, telling the corporal he could not do that as long as he was not a good soldier.

Immediately Crabtree drew a revolver, and began firing. Sergeant Washburn jumped to his feet and grappled with the soldier, suffering a bullet wound in the hand, and another in the jaw.

Capt. Raymond seized Crabtree's arm, and was about to disarm him when a bullet struck him in the neck, lodging in the spine. The Captain dropped to the floor, paralyzed.

A bullet also struck Corporal Such in the left arm. Crabtree then fired a bullet into his own body.

Capt. Raymond is the son of Brigadier Charles W. Raymond, retired. He was 38 years old. He was commissioned from Pennsylvania.

## FAMILY LIVED IN STUMP.

They Build a Cosy Home in a Gigantic Cedar.

A dispatch from Seattle, Wash., says with seven children and a fat wife, John Selvert, lately from Iowa, is living in a stump in the northern part of that city.

Selvert went to Seattle several months ago. He had but little money and a large family. Because of the great boom there he was unable to find an empty house and resolved to build one of his own. He bought an unimproved lot in the north part of the city, in a district where logging operations ceased but a year ago, and on going out to plan his house he found half the lot occupied by a gigantic cedar stump thirty feet high and eighteen feet in diameter ten feet above ground.

With an auger and saw Selvert cut out a seven-foot section from the south end, and walked into his stump. The walls were found to be fifteen inches thick and the whole stump was a hollow shell. He cut out windows, laid a tight floor and made a ceiling of planking and flooring.

With an auger and saw Selvert twelve feet above ground, went inside and made the windows for the second story. Third story was constructed and a tight roof of shiplap and shingles was made over the top.

Selvert peeled off the bark and painted the stump a light green and the window and door frames pure white. The whole makes a very pretty home at a cost of only \$40, and the owner has refused \$2,500 for his unique abode.

## WATCHING STEAMER.

Probable That Filibustering Expedition Fitting Out.

The presence at Edenton, N. C., of the steamer Nanticoke, which so mysteriously changed hands recently at Elizabeth City, after having been put in thorough readiness for sea service, has aroused the government to activity under the impression that filibustering expeditions is organizing. A revenue cutter is looking after the expedition.

## BUILDING COLLAPSED.

Five Floors of Stove Works Sink Under Weight.

Five of the floors of the six-story house of the Peninsular Stove Works of Detroit, collapsed from the weight of stocks Saturday. The fire which followed was soon under control. Search is being made for victims. Four are reported killed and a number injured.

## Killed the Sheriff.

At Florence, Texas, Saturday Retugio Jaureque plunged a charpeneed spoon handle into Sheriff Wright while the sheriff was placing the black cap on Jaureque preparatory to hanging him, for criminal assault.

## SINK WITH CREW

Russian Submarine Goes Down in Black Sea.

## ONLY ONE MAN SAVED

During Manoeuvres in the Black Sea, Near Sebastopol, a Subsurface Boat Collides With Battle Ship, and All but One of the Crew Go Down With the Craft.

Twenty men went down in the Russian submarine Kambala, after a collision with the battleship Rostislav during manoeuvres Friday night. Hope, though it is slight, is entertained that they are still alive.

Desperate efforts are being made by the officers and men of the Black sea fleet, with the assistance of divers and salvage workmen from Sebastopol to raise the submarine before the imprisoned men succumb to the vital air.

Admiral Bostrem, commander of the naval forces in the Black sea, has taken personal charge of the pontoons, one of which is equipped with a powerful hoisting craft, assembled at the scene of the catastrophe.

All through the afternoon divers and technicians were busy in an endeavor to fasten chains around the hull, which lies in an awkward position, about 28 fathoms down, in order to haul it to the surface.

So far their efforts have not been successful but reports reached shore indicate that there is a good chance of raising the boat.

Apparently the submarine was not crushed, as had been feared.

The submarine Kambala was conducting a series of night manoeuvres against the battleship squadron with the idea of forcing an entrance into the harbor.

During the operations the Kambala, upon which was Capt. Blielkoff, the commander of the flotilla and in charge of the manoeuvres, unaccountably let her course and swung across the bows of the battleship Rostislav. The two vessels collided and the submarine sank instantly.

The commander of the submarine, Lieut. Aguilonoff, was on deck at the time of the accident. He swam away and was saved, but Capt. Blielkoff, Midshipman Tuckhoff, a warrant officer, and 17 members of the crew went down with the vessel.

## All Hope Gone.

A later dispatch from Sebastopol says all hope is gone of saving the lives of the crew of the Russian submarine Kambala, which was sunk in collision with the battleship Rostislav during manoeuvres Friday night or of recovering the wreck, owing to the great depth of water. Two divers have died in the attempt to rescue the men, on account of the intense pressure.

## MADE TO PAY FINE

Because He Did Not Pay First Class Postage.

The Aiken correspondent of The State relates a case that should be a warning to all people. He says Mr. John Wallenburg, one of the prominent citizens of that city, was fined \$10 by a postoffice inspector for an alleged violation of the postal law. The inspector informed him that about a year ago he inclosed a line or two of writing in a fourth class package and that he was due Uncle Sam \$10 for it. At first Mr. Wallenburg had no recollection of such a violation, and refused to pay it, declaring that he would carry the matter into the courts. He afterwards remembered, however, sending a package of photo films, and he labeled each one and stated how many of each he wished of the dealer. He then went to the postoffice and asked the clerk to weigh it, intending to pay first class postage rates, paying on one ounce, but the inspector says it weighed two ounces, and he was due \$10 for the same, as it was a violation. Mr. Wallenburg paid the \$10 as it would have cost him a good deal to have the case brought into court.

## Saved Man's Life.

Cleveland Strow, a teamster, hurled a huge stone at a bull that was trampling David Purchis to death, fractured the animal's skull and saved Purchis' life. Purchis and a neighbor were driving the bull along the road near Vermontville, Mich., when it became unruly. The creature had no horns but after knocking Purchis down proceeded to trample the life out of him. The neighbor was unable to drive the bull away.

## Christian in Cabinet.

For the first time in the history of the Turkish empire a Christian has been named for a place among the Sultan's advisors. Gabriel N. Effendi, an Armenian, has been made minister of public works, a position in which it is possible for him to do much toward securing fair treatment for his people in the future.

## MAN AND COW

WILL BE WIPED OFF THE EARTH SAYS NATHAN STRAUS.

The Great New York Philanthropist, by Tuberculosis, Unless It Is Fought Successfully.

Cows and men are in danger of ultimate extinction through tuberculosis, declares Nathan Straus, of New York. This startling announcement was made by the New York philanthropist in a paper read before the International Dairy congress, at Budapest, Hungary. As the result of 18 years spent in warning against tuberculosis he declared that he is convinced that time and persistence in present methods will certainly assure the extinction of the dairy industry and of the human race. Insisting that the great white plague exists and spreads among cattle and among people largely because of the peril of tuberculous milk, Mr. Straus said:

"Tuberculosis cows bear healthy calves and straightway infect them with this disease through the milk that they give to their young, and when the calves are weaned these diseased cows supply the germs of the white plague to the human beings who use their milk. Thus we are inviting the extermination of the dairy industry and of the human race, for this plague is increasing both among cattle and among men, and it will increase like the spreading of a fire so long as the milk swarming with tubercule bacilli is used as food for calves or babies. There is a mathematical certainty as to this fact.

"Eighteen years ago I declared that it would soon be regarded as a crime to feed a young child upon milk that had not been pasteurized. I was optimistic. Intelligent farmers now regard it as folly to feed a calf or a pig with unpasteurized milk unless they know by the tuberculin test that the cow is free from tuberculosis, but Chicago is the only city in the world that takes such precautions to save its people from tuberculosis."

As for the consequence of dairymen selling tuberculous milk Mr. Straus pointed out that there had been in New York city in two years an increase of 33 per cent in the number of new cases of tuberculosis, a fact which the Health department of the city tried to explain, but did not deny. At this rate, he said, within a generation the great wealth of the American metropolis would be insufficient to provide hospitals for the tuberculosis patients.

Mr. Straus said that bovine tuberculosis now costs the American farmer \$14,000,000 a year, and the immediate killing of all the tuberculous dairy cows, if it could be effected, would cost a billion, but that pasteurization would infallibly kill the germs of tuberculosis and all other disease germs that might be in the milk.

## SOUL-MATES SWITCHED.

New Cure Administered by the Irate Relatives.

Jasper C. Crum, of Lexington, Ky., disappeared from his home this week and it was believed that he had been kidnapped, as he was forced to leave at the point of a pistol.

For the past week a posse searched the mountains for him and he was finally found in a mining camp, where he was living with Miss Lizzie Moore, his soul-mate. Both were brought back to Lexington, and after being made to strip to the waist, they were soundly switched. The woman then was turned loose, while Crum, who is married, was taken to his irate wife.

Letters found in the Crum home showed that the elopement had been planned in advance and that it was to be made to appear that he had been kidnapped.

## FISH SAVES STEAMSHIP.

Plugs a Hole in Vessel and Stops a Bad Leak.

Capt. Young and crew and about 65 passengers of the steamship Concho, which arrived in Galveston, Texas, last week, attribute their escape from a watery grave to a large fish which was in some manner sucked into a bad leak in the vessel's side and plugged the hole through which the water was filling the vessel.

The leak appeared to be stopped and the vessel was able to make port. The mysterious stoppage of the leak could not be explained and it remained a problem to the crew they reached port where divers found the big fish wedged tight in the hole so effectively as to prevent the inflow of water when the vessel was 100 miles from land.

## Tried Female Attire.

John Robinson, a negro, tried to aid in the solution of the female servant problem in Chicago, Ill., by donning female attire and assuming the name of "Jeanette Robinson." Detectives discovered his trick this week and he was fined \$35 and ordered to resume the conventional dress of his sex.

## ON THEIR WAY

The Boll Weevil Will be Here in Eight Years.

## GOVERNMENT FIGURES

Experiments to Find Substitute for Cotton in Mississippi, Where Boll Weevil Plays Havoc—Thinks Rice Would Thrive in That Territory as Abundant Lakes Are Helpful.

That it will be eight years before the boll weevil will reach the South Carolina cotton fields is the estimate which John F. Slaterry, of the United States Agricultural Department, who is in Charleston on a visit to relatives and friends places upon the eastward movement of the insect which has ravaged such havoc with cotton in the Southwestern States and which is gradually making its way east. It is also the opinion of Mr. Slaterry that the boll weevil will not do the harm in the eastern part of the cotton belt that it has done in the west on account of the different conditions, attending the cultivation and growth of the plant.

The opinion of Mr. Slaterry, who is in charge of an experiment station at Greenville, Miss., will be interesting and reassuring to the South Carolina farmers, who are counting the seasons when the terrible boll weevil strikes, this section of the country. It is generally said that the boll weevil should reach the coast section in five years, but Mr. Slaterry, whose opinion is worth a great deal, says that this is too fast a record for the travel of the insect, under existing conditions, and he does not believe that the crop in South Carolina can possibly be reached by the insects before eight years.

Mr. Slaterry has had experience with the boll weevil and in fact the purpose of the experimental station, which Mr. Slaterry is conducting under government auspices in Mississippi, is to find substitute crops for cotton in a section of country where the boll weevil has played havoc. Rice is one of the crops with which Mr. Slaterry is experimenting, and with the many lakes through that section of the country, Mr. Slaterry thinks that by the use of pumps for irrigation, the area of rice cultivation has been affected by the insects.

The boll weevils thrive, Mr. Slaterry said, on the high growth of the cotton plant of the west. In this section, the plant does not grow as tall, is not as thick in its foliage and with less shade and protection from the sun, Mr. Slaterry thinks that the boll weevils will lose some of their terror.

Slaterry is interested in the rice industry of this section, and is hopeful of the coming crop proving a success. Until a few years ago, Mr. Slaterry was himself a planter of rice, having a large farm in Colleton county, but then he disposed of his property and went west, working for the government. His absence from South Carolina has not, however, made him forget his former friends and interests, and he is glad to return to Charleston to spend a time and renew old associations.

## MUTINY ON ISLAND.

Part of Philippine Constabulary Company at Davao Rises.

A dispatch from Manila says a portion of the Second company of native constabulary stationed at Davao, in the island of Mindanao, mutinied on the night of June 6, and attacked the company quarters which they captured after wounding one of the native officers.

After a fight lasting two hours on the following day, in which one man named Libbey was killed, and four others wounded, the mutineers took to the mountains on the approach of a company of the constabulary stationed at Mapi, which hurried to the relief of the besieged Americans and loyal natives.

## KILLED IN RUNAWAY.

A Prosperous Farmer of Honea Path Meets Tragic Death.

A dispatch from Honea Path says as Mr. S. E. Callahan was driving into town Saturday afternoon his horse took fright at an old tank standing on the railroad track. The lines broke after the horse had run for some distance and Mr. Callahan attempted to jump from the buggy. He was thrown to the ground with such force that his whole body was paralyzed at once and he died about an hour afterwards. A negro in the buggy with him jumped out when the horse began to run. He was considerably bruised, but escaped without serious injury.

## Value of Radium.

The fact that a pound of radium is theoretically worth over \$36,000,000 is an inducement to produce it, and science makes its production a necessity. The total world production of radium has not yet equaled one gram.